

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Kunihide SHIKATA et al.
Serial No: Not assigned
Filed: April 27, 2006
For: Biomedical Member and Method for
Producing the Same

Art Unit: Not assigned
Examiner: Not assigned

TRANSMITTAL OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

- The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
- The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the

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information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

OR FEE

Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

AND FEE

Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).

4. If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**

5. A list of 15 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

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NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
- Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references: N/A

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

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Date: April 27, 2006

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FORM PTO-1449		Docket Number (Optional) 81880.0145	Application Number Not assigned
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION		Applicant Kunihide SHIKATA et al.	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Filing Date April 27, 2006	Group Art Unit Not assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,525,560	06/11/96	Yamazaki et al.			
	5,403,795	04/04/95	Koyama et al.			
	5,686,366	11/11/97	Koyama et al.			
	5,285,078	02/08/94	Mimura et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	
	2000-191372	07/11/00	JP			Abstract	
	09-221354	08/26/97	JP			Abstract	
	2003-040673	02/13/03	JP			Abstract	
	03-151978	06/28/91	JP			Abstract	
	06-172026	06/21/94	JP			Abstract	
	60-204666	10/16/85	JP			Abstract	
	05-294718	11/09/93	JP			Abstract	
	06-022572	03/30/94	JP			Abstract	
	2000-016836	01/18/00	JP			Abstract	
	05-206514	08/13/93	JP			Abstract	
	2000-159568	06/13/00	JP			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Ryoichi SHIKATA et al., "Mechanical Properties and Characterization of ZrO ₂ -Al ₂ O ₃ Composites with High Fracture Strength", Japan Society of Powder and Powder Metallurgy; April 10, 1991; Vol. 38, No. 3 pp. 57-61

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	